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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/944,549	08/31/2001	Lou Chauvin	83304BF-P	3066

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EXAMINER

MCCLELLAN, JAMES S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3627

DATE MAILED: 03/01/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/944,549

Applicant(s)

CHAUVIN ET AL.

Examiner

James S McClellan

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 December 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Amendment

1. Applicant's submittal of an amendment was entered on 12/10/04, wherein:

claims 1-22 are pending and

claims 1, 5, 6, 12-14, 17, and 20-22 have been amended.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-5, 10, 11, 13, and 17-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,324,521 (hereinafter "Shiota") in view of U.S. Patent Application No. US 2003/0005132 A1 (hereinafter "Nguyen").

Regarding **claim 1**, Shiota discloses a method of selecting a digital photographic service provider from a plurality of different service providers and providing a photographic image service with respect to at least digital image located at a user location remote from said selected photographic service provider, comprising: providing a services directory (see column 3, lines 5-10); said user providing criterion for selection of a service provider (see column 2, lines 29-33); automatically provider a list of service providers; selecting one or more service providers (see column 3, lines 5-18); providing a request for a desired service; and providing of said desired

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service (see column 4, lines 28-32); **[claim 2]** the criterion comprises a location of a designated recipient (see column 9, lines 17-20); **[claim 3]** the criterion includes specific product characteristics (see column 3, lines 8-10); **[claim 4]** list is accomplished through the use of a locator system (see column 2, lines 4-9); **[claim 5]** said list includes service information for each of the service providers (see column 3, lines 5-10); **[claim 10]** displaying a list of service providers (see column 3, lines 5-10); **[claim 11]** said criterion is directly associated with the data included in the digital image file (see column 3, lines 8-10); **[claim 13]** the service provider is positioned on a display screen according to a business criteria (see column 3, lines 8-10); **[claim 17]** selecting digital images digital images captured by a digital camera (see column 3, lines 31-36); **[claim 18]** the selected service is producing hardcopy prints of the selected images (see column 3, lines 31-35); and **[claim 19]** the step of selecting a print quantity for the selected images (see column 3, lines 31-36).

Regarding **claim 20**, Shiota discloses a system for providing imaging services over a communications network as set forth above in detail for claim 1.

Regarding **claim 21**, Shiota discloses a computer software product for linking a digital camera user to a service provider selected from a plurality of service providers as set forth above in detail for claim 1.

Regarding **claim 22**, Shiota discloses a method of linking a digital photographic imaging service requester to a service provider selected from a plurality of different service providers that are registered in a member system as set forth above in detail for claim 1.

Shiota fails to disclose the use of services directory that contains a list of unrelated service providers.

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Nguyen teaches the use of providing a list of unrelated service providers (see paragraph 0040).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Shiota with a list of unrelated service providers as taught by Nguyen, because providing a list of unrelated service providers gives the customer greater control and choice to pick the service provider best suited to meet his or her needs.

4. Claims 6-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shiota in view of Nguyen as applied to claims 1-5, 10, 11, 13, and 17-22 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,918,054 (hereinafter "Jury").

Shiota/Nguyen disclose all the claimed elements as set forth above but fails to explicitly disclose use of trademark icons associated with each of the listed service providers.

Jury teaches the use of associating trademark icons with each of the providers (see column 4, lines 45-49).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Shiota/Nguyen with the trademark icons taught by Jury, because trademark icons provide visual confirmation of the service provider, wherein allowing customers to better recognize a particular service provider.

5. Claims 12 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shiota in view of Nguyen as applied to claims 1-5, 10, 11, 13, and 17-22 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent Application No. US 2002/0036696 (hereinafter "Takemoto").

Shiota/Nguyen disclose all the claimed elements as set forth above but fails to explicitly disclose use of data that includes the camera manufacturer.

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Takemoto teaches the use of identifying a camera model for purposes of image processing (see ABSTRACT).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Shiota/Nguyen with camera model (manufacturer) information as taught by Takemoto, because model information allows for the elimination of an effect of a tone characteristic and color characteristic caused by a specific camera model (see ABSTRACT).

6. Claims 14 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shiota in view of Nguyen as applied to claims 1-5, 10, 11, 13, and 17-22 above, and further in view of Examiner's assertion of Official Notice.

Regarding claim 14, Shiota/Nguyen fails to explicitly disclose the use of determining the retailer of a camera to determine an image service provider.

The Examiner takes Official Notice that retailer information is old and well known data to collect when provider service on products purchased at a retail store.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Shiota/Nguyen with retailer data criterion as is well known in the art, because retailers bundle products and their service/maintenance.

Regarding claim 16, Shiota/Nguyen fails to explicitly disclose the use of determining a language selected by a user as business criteria.

The Examiner takes Official Notice that language criteria is old and well known in the art of electronic commerce.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Shiota/Nguyen with language data as is well known in the art, because

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electronic commerce over a wide area network allows user having knowledge various languages and it will be courteous to the customer to provide additional options of service.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments filed December 10, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

All arguments are moot in view of new grounds of rejection necessitated by Applicant's amendment.

Conclusion

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

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9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jim McClellan whose telephone number is (703) 305-0212. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:30 to 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Olszewski, can be reached at (703) 308-5183.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

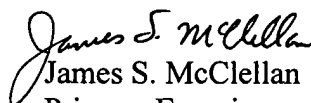
Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patent and Trademarks
Washington D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306 (Official communications) or
(703) 746-3516 (Informal/Draft communications).

Hand delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park 5, 2451 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, 7th floor receptionist.


James S. McClellan
Primary Examiner
A.U. 3627

jsm
February 23, 2005